



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov
DIW 03-05

F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC
130 WOODBURY ROAD
WOODBURY NY 11797

COPY MAILED

MAR 14 2005

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Furui et al. :
Application No. 09/854,617 : DECISION GRANTING PETITION
Filed: 14 May, 2001 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.55(c)
Atty Docket No. JP9-2000-0025 :
(8728-5) :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.55(c), filed on 30 December, 2004, for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) for benefit of the filing date of foreign Japanese Application No. 2000-142110, filed on 15 May, 2000.

A petition under 37 CFR 1.55(c) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority requires:

- (1) The nonprovisional application claiming the benefit of an earlier filing date must be filed on or after November 29, 2000;
- (2) the claim submitted with the petition must identify the prior foreign application for which priority is claimed, as well as any foreign application for the same subject matter and having a filing date before that of the application for which priority is claimed, by the application number, country, and the filing date **and be included either in an oath or declaration (37 CFR 1.63(c)(2)) or in an Application Data Sheet (37 CFR 1.76(b)(6))**;
- (3) the surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(t);
- (4) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.55(a)(1) and the date the

claim was filed was unintentional. (The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional); and

- (5) the above-identified nonprovisional application must be filed within 12 months of the filing date of the foreign application.

The instant pending nonprovisional application was filed after November 29, 2000, and did not include a reference to the foreign application, for which benefit is now sought, within the later of four months from the actual filing date of the application or sixteen months from the filing date of the prior foreign application. Therefore, since the claim for priority is submitted after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.55(a)(1)(i), this is an appropriate petition under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.55(c).

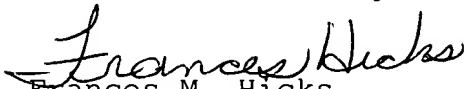
The above-identified pending nonprovisional application was filed on 14 May, 2001, which is after November 29, 2000 and within 12 months of 15 May, 2000 (the filing date of the foreign application to which benefit is now being claimed). On 14 January, 2003, an executed oath/declaration was received which identifies the foreign application for which priority is claimed by application number, country and filing date. The required petition fee of \$1,370.00 was received with the petition. Lastly, petitioner has provided an adequate statement of unintentional delay.

All requirements being met, the petition under 37 CFR 1.55(c) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is **granted**.

A Corrected Filing Receipt which reflects the above-noted foreign application accompanies this decision on petition.

This application is being forwarded to Technology Center AU 2145 for examination in due course and for consideration by the examiner of record of the foreign priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

Telephone inquiries related to this decision should be directed to Senior Petitions Attorney Douglas I. Wood at 571-272-3231.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Hicks".

Frances M. Hicks
Lead Paralegal
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

Encl: Corrected Filing Receipt